

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 48

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives by requiring
transparency of record votes in the Committee on Rules.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 10, 2007

Mr. DREIER (for himself, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, and Mr. SESSIONS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTION

Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives by
requiring transparency of record votes in the Committee
on Rules.

Whereas the Republican controlled 104th Congress adopted
rules of the House requiring all committees to include in
their reports accurate records of all recorded votes on
measures and matters and any amendments thereto;

Whereas the Democratically controlled 110th Congress adopt-
ed a rule waiving the reporting requirements concerning
committee votes against reports from the Committee on
Rules;

Whereas during the period starting with the 104th Congress
through the 109th Congress, the Committee on Rules

held 1,304 recorded votes that were accurately reflected in the reports of the Committee on Rules;

Whereas the Committee on Rules has had a membership of only thirteen Members since the 98th Congress;

Whereas clause 3(a)(2) of rule XIII provides for the filing of a supplemental committee report specifically for the purpose of correcting any errors in the depiction of recorded votes, should they occur;

Whereas pursuant to clause 3(a)(2) of rule XIII, the layover requirements under clause 4 (three-day layover requirement for committee reports) and clause 6 (one-day layover requirement for privileged reports from the Committee on Rules) of rule XIII are not applicable to supplemental reports correcting errors in the depiction of recorded votes;

Whereas committee reports provide essential legislative history by which to evaluate the actions of a committee;

Whereas requiring the inclusion of accurate committee votes in committee reports provides the public with a permanent, official, and reliable record as to the actions of a committee on particular measures and matters;

Whereas other methods of disclosure, such as the internet, lack the permanence required of legislative history; and

Whereas committee reports are held in the National Archives and the Federal Depository Libraries to benefit future generations seeking accurate historical information on previous congressional action: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the second sentence of clause 3(b) of
 2 rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives
 3 is amended by striking “a report by the Committee on

- 1 Rules on a rule, joint rule, or the order of business or
- 2 to”.

